

*DELAWARE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES OVERSIGHT
COUNCIL*

MEETING MINUTES

March 20, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robert Stuart, at Delaware State Fire School in Dover. Those in attendance were as follows:

Council Members

<i>Robert Coupe</i>	<i>Dept. of Safety & Homeland Security</i>
<i>Jason Baxley</i>	<i>DSP Aviation</i>
<i>Mark Logemann</i>	<i>New Castle County EMS (Alt.)</i>
<i>Alan Robinson</i>	<i>Fire Prevention Commission</i>
<i>Maria Carmen Diaz</i>	<i>EMSC</i>
<i>Glenn Luedtke</i>	<i>Sussex County Member at Large</i>
<i>Romain Alexander</i>	<i>Governor's Office</i>
<i>Ross Megargel</i>	<i>State EMS Medical Director</i>
<i>Bill Betts</i>	<i>DVFA</i>
<i>Mike McMichael</i>	<i>DVFA Ambulance Committee</i>
<i>Megan Moerman</i>	<i>Kent County EMS (Alt.)</i>
<i>Kate Groner</i>	<i>ACEP</i>
<i>Rick Hong</i>	<i>DHSS (Alt.)</i>

Council Staff

<i>Diane Hainsworth</i>	<i>OEMS</i>
<i>Jacki Poore</i>	<i>OEMS</i>

Guests in Attendance

<i>Matthew Pragg</i>	<i>DSP</i>
<i>Linda Popels</i>	<i>EMSPS</i>
<i>Bradley Gosch</i>	<i>American Legion Ambulance</i>
<i>Robert Ross</i>	<i>Resident of Kent County</i>
<i>Brent Waninger</i>	<i>OEMS</i>
<i>Warren Jones</i>	<i>DVFA</i>
<i>A.J. Shall</i>	<i>DEMA</i>
<i>Jay Jones</i>	<i>DVFA</i>
<i>Robert Mauch</i>	<i>SCEMS</i>

I. INTRODUCTION

DEMSOC members, staff and guests introduced themselves.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the December 5, 2019 meeting were reviewed and approved.

III. PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS UPDATE

Linda Popels reported that they conducted a Strategic National Stockpile and Receiving, Staging, and Shipping tabletop exercise in February. They will be having a full-scale exercise in October.

They conducted a Mass Fatality and Family Assistance workshop in February. They will be having a tabletop exercise on May 14.

They will be holding a Continuity of Operations exercise in May.

They have two plans that are finished and now in effect; the High Consequence Infectious Disease Surveillance and Response Plan and the Ebola Virus Disease Concept of Operations Plan.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1) Opioid Update

Diane Hainsworth reported that the EMS & Preparedness Section will soon be the EMS, Preparedness and Response Section. They have obtained eight full time state positions to create a Crisis Health Response Office. That office will take the bulk of the opioid work happening in Public Health currently. They hope to announce those positions at the next meeting.

All Opioid grants are due May 1. Three of the grants have been combined into one application; Prevention, Surveillance and Crisis grants. They will be continuing efforts started under those grants, which includes supporting the Overdose System of Care as well as providing resources for the Addiction Action Committee and sub-committees.

The Overdose System of Care had a meeting last week.

They will be holding a Naloxone Point of Dispensing at Del-Tech Terry Campus tonight, providing no cost Naloxone to anyone who takes the brief training.

They have created an app, OpiRescue Delaware app that gives step-by-step direction on how to recognize and overdose and how to administer Naloxone. They are currently working on a voice over for the app.

Secretary Coupe reported for the Division of Forensic Sciences that there were 400 overdose deaths in 2018.

2) DEMSOC report update

OEMS reported that they are in the process of putting the report together. They have received all reports from the group. It looks to be on schedule and should be finished by the April 15 due date, and delivered to the Governor's office.

3) Review NHTSA recommendations

Chairman Stuart shared that the NHTSA review is every 5 years. OEMS has created a very comprehensive spreadsheet, which shows NHTSA's recommendations as well as the progress made if any. The chairman asked the group to review the spreadsheet and provide updates if any as well as pick their top three to discuss at the next meeting. The next NHTSA review will be in 2020 or 2021.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

1) Agency Reports

Fire Commission

Alan Robinson reported that they had their meeting yesterday. There were no hearings. They discussed two issues, the problem with the Lucas device moving on the patient, they are addressing the issue. The other issue discussed was the hospital diverts, they are asking if there is something that the ambulance companies can do to help lessen the time of diverts.

The next meeting is April 16 at 9 am at the Fire School.

DVFA

Willard Betts reported that the State Ambulance Association has a growing interest in having AEMT's.

Warren Jones reported that he met with Senator Carper's office about Safe Harbor that recruits any hospital from doing one on one exchange. He has been meeting with the Delaware Hospital Association, he received a list of hospital contacts, he has talked to the State EMS Association and put together a list of items that they would like to do exchanges with and sent it to the hospitals. He has received one response and one hospital reported that they have continued to do one on one exchange.

New Castle County

Mark Logemann reported that all selective candidates for the upcoming academy have successfully completed all of the pre-employment processes. They will begin on April 1.

DSP

Jason Baxley reported that with the last class they now have over 550 troopers that are first responder certified. They have over 400 AED's. They have successfully doubled the naloxone deployment. They have completed the belt worn tourniquet training. They are in the process of providing trauma kits to all troopers.

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Aviation: They have one trooper in medic training at Del-Tech. They have three new pilots in different stages of training. They should take possession of their new aircraft in November.

DPH

Rick Hong reported that flu is still widespread in the state. They have seen Hepatitis A outbreaks among the high populations, Delaware has not seen a peak but neighboring states New Jersey and Pennsylvania have. They are actively vaccinating populations; they are focusing on drug treatment centers and homeless shelters.

OEMS

Diane Hainsworth reported that yesterday they had a burn surge facilitated discussion. With the HPP agreement they have to create 5 plans over 5 years; a pediatric plan, a burn surge plan, an infectious disease plan, a chemical exposure plan and a radiation exposure plan for the healthcare centers. At the discussion, they discussed the issue of Delaware not having any burn centers. A scenario that will be tested coming up is a blast type injury with burns of 2000 and 200 injured with significant burns staying in Delaware. They are having another facilitated discussion on April 17.

They recently held an Infectious Disease ½ day symposium.

They will be holding an infectious disease tabletop the first week of June.

They met with folks from Biospatial, which is a system that was created after 9-11 using homeland security funding. A surveillance and tracking system does not use any patient information. They are looking to have them present to a larger group hopefully in the summer to determine if it is something that would benefit Delaware.

Medical Direction

Ross Megargel discussed how hospital diversion is frequently a problem but is a courtesy to that hospital if they are overwhelmed and they have a concern that they cannot give the patient the best care. The hospital diversion policy is available on the OEMS website.

ACEP

Kate Groner reported that Dr. John Powell is now the president of ACEP. She will still be on the committee.

EMSC

Maria Diaz reported that their next meeting is Tuesday, May 17 at 12 noon at the Fire School.

Ambulance Committee

Mike McMichael reported that DEMSA is working on community efforts. The new BLS protocols went into effect on Jan. 1, there is some concern of the number who had failed and that some lost their certification. They have a new Vice

President, Albert Schrack. They have a Facebook page where meeting dates and information can be found.

DSHS

Secretary Coupe reported that the statewide interoperability executive committee is working on mutual aide. One issue they are working on is Maryland upgrading their radios and when some companies cross over to Maryland, their radios do not work. They have worked to find funding to upgrade those companies radios. The National Public Safety Broadband also known as FirstNet is a Band 14 in partnership with AT&T that is set aside for first responders, they are in the process of determining who should be on the network. One feature of FirstNet is that they are going back to the push to talk feature. He reported that there is a company in Texas that is in beta testing with a drone that is forward deployed and will be sent by a dispatcher to fly to a scene and provide video and pictures of an incident.

Sussex County

Robert Mauch reported:

JEMS Games: They are very proud of their competition team that once again earned a medal at the JEMS Games. The team finished in Second place earning the silver medal. This year there were 18 teams that entered the competition with two teams from Taiwan and one from the United Kingdom. This silver medal is the 7th medal earned by SCEMS and keeps them as the most decorated team in the history of the competition.

Opioids and Narcan: They continue to see an increase in incidents involving potential narcotic overdoses. While they have noticed a decrease in the number of Narcan doses administered by ALS, BLS and peace officer administrations continue to be on the rise. Peace officer Narcan training continues to be provided by SCEMS

Accreditation: SCEMS continues to work towards completion of our CAAS accreditation application. They estimate that we are 75% complete with the application process and remain on track for submission in the coming months. This process has created positive policy and operational changes.

Public Safety Headquarters: This is currently in architectural design phase and is anticipated to be a 3-4-year long project. They have conducted several meetings with the architects and are beginning to see ideas materialize.

West-side Station Construction: Architectural and site planning is underway for construction of the new Medic 110 and EMS200 supervisor station just north of Seaford. They anticipate construction to begin this spring. With the restructured deployment of the West side units, they have seen a reduction in the number of dual unit responses into the Seaford area.

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Active Assailant: The SCEMS Active Assailant team remains active and continues to conduct hands on training with law enforcement. All medics will once again participate in drills alongside law enforcement to simulate a realistic event. To date, they have the CRASE program to 300 civilians and over 900 have been educated to Stop the Bleed. This is now part of their routine public outreach program and our goal is to double this number in 2019.

New Simulator: They have taken delivery of a new human patient simulator. This replaces their current 12-year-old simulator and is the same equipment utilized in the VEST lab at Christiana Care. This simulator is the newest device from CAE Appolo. Along with it, they are updating the learning space software. With this system, the participants can see their own performance alongside the clinical data from the simulator. Field Training Officers will continue to lead the review. All paramedics will continue to complete a full team-based scenario training evolution once a year.

ImageTrend Elite: They want to extend a Thank you to the Office of EMS for coordinating the DEMRS/ImageTrend Elite user group discussion. A productive roundtable discussion was held in March and a list of suggestions for improvement has been generated. A follow up meeting is scheduled for the first week of April.

Resuscitation Academy: After two years of planning and preparation, they will be hosting their first cardiac arrest Resuscitation Academy in coordination with Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue. This will be held this September as part of the DVFA EMS Conference.

Anti-Idol System: They are in the trial phase of an anti-idol system for our vehicles. They currently have one response unit equipped with this system that will monitor the internal vehicle temperature and voltage level of the batteries. The vehicle will auto start and shut off as appropriate to maintain temperature and voltage levels. The goal is to protect the integrity of medications and equipment due to temperature extremes and to save wear and tear on the vehicle engine. One hour of anti-idol use is equivalent to saving 33 miles worth of engine use.

Ventilators: They are in the field trial phase of a new ventilator to replace the aging devices currently in use. The Zoll Z-vent has been selected and is being field tested at a station with some of our longest transport times. It is anticipated that the vents will be purchased, all providers educated, and all units deployed during the first quarter of FY20.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT